



PLACER COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**  
CORONER-MARSHAL



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**EDWARD N. BONNER**  
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

**STEPHEN L. D'ARCY**  
UNDERSHERIFF

## PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: February 4, 2008 3:20pm  
Date/Time of Occurrence:  
Nature of Call: Update on found skiers  
Location of Call:  
Case Number:  
Released by: Lieutenant Jeffrey Ausnow

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### **SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:**

Christopher Gerwig (32) and Patrick Frost (34), both from San Francisco, have been reunited with their families after being spotted by the Placer County Sheriff's helicopter and flown to the main Sheriff's Office in Auburn.

Christopher and Patrick stated they unintentionally skied out of bounds and became lost during white-out conditions Saturday. They felt that they could walk to safety and began following the river toward the Upper Hell Hole Reservoir. At nightfall the pair dug a snow cave at the base of a tree and huddled together for warmth.

On Sunday, Christopher and Patrick kept moving in an attempt to stay warm. They rationed out two Power Bars they had with them and melted snow in a small plastic bag to drink.

The pair again dug a snow cave on Sunday night and survived another night by sharing each others body heat. On Monday morning they were spotted from the air, approximately seven miles from Alpine Meadows, near where the Rubicon River enters the Upper Hell Hole Reservoir.

Christopher and Patrick were flown to the Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital where they were treated for very minor frost bite to their toes. Both were released and brought to the Placer County Sheriff's Department where they were reunited with family members.